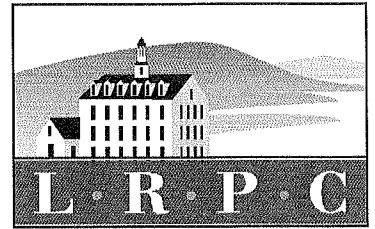


LAKES REGION PLANNING COMMISSION

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TO: LRPC Transportation Technical Advisory Committee

FROM: Michael Izard, Principal Planner

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael Izard', is written over the printed name in the 'FROM' line.

DATE: June 2, 2010

Minutes of May 5, 2010

LRPC Transportation Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Meeting Laconia Air Quality Monitoring Station/Laconia City Hall Laconia, NH

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT

Sheldon Morgan, Gilford (Chairman)
Jeff Haines, Center Harbor
David Kerr, Barnstead
David Bowles, Tamworth
Shanna Saunders, Laconia

OTHERS PRESENT

Michael Izard, LRPC
David Jeffers, LRPC
R. Murray Campbell, Bristol
Dick Waitt, LRPC Commissioner (Gilford)
Kathleen Brockett, NH DES – Air Resources
Division
Dean Eastman, NH DOT Bureau of Planning
and Community Assistance

1. Visit to Laconia Air Monitoring Station

Prior to the formal meeting, thirteen people met at the Laconia air monitoring station on Greene Street. M. Little and K. Brockett of NH DES showed TAC members the air monitoring equipment and described how it works. They explained the purpose that this station serves as an ambient air monitoring station in the central portion of the state. Over the weekend there had been a rare ozone event, where the 0.77 parts per million (ppm) standard had been exceeded for more than eight hours; indications are that this was weather-related. There was discussion of speciation, using the chemistry of trapped particles to identify the source of particulate matter. This can be useful to the state as it strives to address air quality problems.

2. Call to Order

Members reconvened at Laconia City Hall, where Chairman Morgan called the meeting to order at 2:35 PM. He thanked the city of Laconia for hosting this TAC meeting. A motion was made to accept the minutes of the April 7, 2010 meeting as written.

M/S/Passed Haines /Kerr

3. **Regional Updates**

D. Jeffers and M. Izard updated the TAC on Road Surface Management Software (RSMS) for assessing pavement conditions and planning maintenance strategies. After researching alternative software packages, LRPC staff determined that the PWS Solutions software is the appropriate option for the RSMS assessment service LRPC provides to Lakes communities under the UPWP. There are still a few items associated with this new software that need to be worked out but the staff feels that the benefits now outweigh any shortcomings. M. Izard noted that the head of Meredith's DPW found the forecasting and budgeting tools associated with this software very helpful and easy to use. LRPC will be conducting an RSMS analysis in Center Harbor this summer as part of the Transportation Chapter of the Master Plan update. Other communities that are interested in arranging for an RSMS should contact M. Izard.

The master scoring sheet of the Transportation Enhancements Advisory Committee (TEAC) was distributed by M. Izard. Half of the 34 proposed projects that were scored received funding; both the first and second highest TAC rated projects from the Lakes Region will be funded; 1) Bristol Central Square Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Improvements, and 2) Winnepesaukee River Trail Phase IIB (bridge over the Winnepesaukee River completing an earlier phase of this trail project. The Bristol project was the highest scoring project in the state. The two projects represent more than \$597,000 in federal funding for the region; the statewide total federal funding approved is approximately \$6.8 million.

M. Izard has ordered a trial version of software that will calculate the economic impact of Scenic Byways. This could be very useful for justification of such an effort in the Lakes Region. D. Eastman noted that to be competitive in seeking funding under the Scenic Byways program, local communities need to be willing to put up matching money; 20 percent is best and hard match is much better than soft match. The first steps that the TAC would need to take are to solicit letters of support from communities through which the Lakes Region Byway passes and garner buy-in from those communities. The federal timeline for applying for Scenic Byways funds is irregular and the window is short, so being prepared is critical to securing funds. To bring some predictability to the statewide process, NH DOT has established Oct. 15 – Nov. 15 as the window for an application Letter of Intent.

4. **Regional Coordination Councils**

As was noted at the April meeting, LRPC and North Country Council submitted a proposal to work jointly to develop a Regional Coordinating Council (RCC) for Transportation and Human Services in Carroll County. Approval of the grant looks promising but is not definite. The Region 3 RCC, encompassing all of Belknap, most of Merrimack, and a two Hillsborough County communities held its first meeting on April 14 in Concord. The next meeting will be held May 12 from 2:00 – 4:00 at the Woodside Building of the Taylor Home in Laconia. LRPC's role in supporting the Council is due to wrap up on June 30.

5. **Covered Salt Storage**

In response to a question posed at the April TAC meeting, D. Jeffers presented information about covered road salt storage. The use of regulations and Best Management Practices by three states (NH, ME, and WI) to limit the migration of stored road salt into water supplies was reviewed. Several handouts from NH DES, UNH Technology Transfer Center (UNH T²), and the Salt Institute were distributed on this topic along with links to additional resources. All distributed resources recommend salt storage on an impervious surface and

covering the salt to limit loss of material and potential water contamination. TAC members discussed storage facilities and practices in several Lakes Region communities along with workshops on the topic being offered by UNH T².

6. Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP)

M. Izard reminded members of the presentation at the March TAC meeting by NH DOT's Stuart Thompson on the HSIP program which is used to prioritize dangerous road segments throughout the state for safety improvements. The list of these areas is referred to as "the 5 percent list"; the latest version of this list was distributed. It identifies three safety improvement projects in the Lakes Region; the intersection of NH Rt. 25 & 153 in Effingham, the intersection of NH Rt.175/175A in Holderness (work completed), along with the segment of US Rt. 3 between Silver Lake and Church Streets. The criteria for site inclusion on the list include the number of fatalities, injuries, and the amount of property damage reported. It is important for the reporting records to be complete. Communities may also petition to be added to the list. M. Izard will check with Stuart Thompson on the status of an update 5 percent list and continue dialog with NHDOT staff about the program.

7. Other Business

Kathleen Brockett distributed a handout on the Laconia air quality monitoring station and data from the recent ozone event.

The next TAC meeting will be on Wednesday, June 2, 2010 at 2:00 PM, at a location to be determined in Meredith. Topics will include a review of the Scenic Byways economic impact tool and an update on Highway Block Grant Aid.

8. Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was unanimously approved.

M/S/Passed Bowles/Haines